

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6093

BILL NUMBER: HB 1971

DATE PREPARED: May 1, 2001

BILL AMENDED: Apr 29, 2001

SUBJECT: Conflict Resolution in School Curriculum.

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FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State & Local

Summary of Legislation: (CCR Amended) *Principal Evaluation*- This bill provides that a school principal's performance evaluation may not be based wholly on ISTEP scores of students in the principal's school, but that the scores may be used as one factor in the evaluation.

Conflict Resolution- It includes methods of conflict resolution in the definition of "Good Citizenship Instruction". It requires the Department of Education (the Department) to identify and make available to school corporations models of conflict resolution instruction, which may consist of a program of teacher training with application of the techniques to the children in the classroom, by May 1, 2002.

Graduation Rate Pilot Program- It requires the Department to conduct a pilot program testing different formulas for determining graduation rates of high schools within ten different school corporations.

Effective Date: (CCR Amended) Upon Passage; July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) *Conflict Resolution*- The Department would experience a minimal increase in administrative expenses regarding the identification and listing of non-commercial resources (on the Department's web site) of conflict resolution instruction.

Graduation Rate Pilot Program- The Department would experience a minimal increase in administrative expenses regarding the compilation and maintenance of reported data from ten pilot school corporations. Likely expenses could include, but are not limited to, the following items: 1) computer reprogramming costs; and 2) the possibility of hiring additional staff.

Under current Indiana law, the Department establishes the manner in which dropout and graduation rates are to be determined by Indiana's 294 school corporations and by Indiana's approximately 40 accredited nonpublic high schools. In accordance with this bill (beginning with the class of students who expect to

graduate in the 2005-2006 school year), the Department would be required to conduct a pilot program to compare the current graduation rate formula to the formula contained within this bill for ten pilot school corporations.

The funds and resources required above could be supplied through a variety of sources, including the following: 1) existing staff and resources not currently being used to capacity; 2) existing staff and resources currently being used in another program; 3) authorized, but vacant, staff positions, including those positions that would need to be reclassified; 4) funds that, otherwise, would be reverted; or (5) new appropriations.

Based on the 07/09/00 state manning table, the Department of Education has 375 authorized positions of which approximately 75 are currently vacant.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures: (Revised) *Conflict Resolution*- School corporations could experience a minimal increase in administrative expenses regarding the research of conflict resolution instruction material identified by the Department for use in existing Good Citizenship Instruction.

Graduation Rate Pilot Program- The ten pilot school corporations could experience an indeterminable increase in administrative expenses regarding the record keeping and reporting requirements to the Department in accordance with this bill. The specific effects would vary by school corporation and would depend upon the size and number of high schools within each school corporation.

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Department of Education.

Local Agencies Affected: School Corporations.

Information Sources: Mary Fortney, Department of Education, (317) 232-9158; DOE ORACLE Data Tables; State Manning Table (07/09/00).